



RESOLUTION 05-01

ADOPTING THE FREDERICKSBURG CITY COUNCIL VISION STATEMENT

WHEREAS, the Vision Statement sets forth an inspiring, compelling picture of the City Council's preferred future of the City of Fredericksburg in 10 to 20 years; and

WHEREAS, the Vision Principles help drive decisions and projects related to the vision; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires that the vision reflect the feelings of the general citizenry.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED this 11th day of January 2005, that the Mayor and City Council of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia, do hereby adopt the attached Vision Statement Document.

Clerk's Certificate

I, the undersigned, certify that I am Clerk of Council of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia, and that the foregoing is a true copy of Resolution 05-01 duly adopted at a meeting of the City Council held 1/11/05 at which a quorum was present and voted. Given under my hand and the official seal of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia this 12th day of January 2005.

*Deborah H. Naggs, CMC
Clerk of Council*

FREDERICKSBURG CITY COUNCIL VISION

January 11, 2005

We are united by a deep appreciation of Fredericksburg's extraordinary contribution to the history of our nation. We dedicate ourselves to enhancing our City's livability, sense of community, and prosperity while preserving our natural beauty, heritage, and unique character for generations to come. This is our foundation.

Sense of Place and Community

Preserving our historic character and our neighborhoods is paramount to promoting our sense of place. Creative strategies and enhanced amenities strengthen the neighborhoods and promote interaction among residents. Our high standards and attention to these elements define us as a unique community and ensure the City's continuing appeal.

Education and Culture

Art, culture, and education are the beacons of a civilized society. To this end, we strongly support our local educational institutions, cultural resources, and artistic endeavors. These distinguish and benefit our entire community.

Diversity

We are a city that appreciates our socio-economic, ethnic, and cultural diversity, from which comes different ideas and better solutions. We cultivate an environment in which all citizens participate in the process of governance and enjoy the full benefits of living in Fredericksburg.

Economic Development

The welfare of our City depends upon stable, long-term economic growth whose benefits are broadly distributed among citizens. Compatible economic development and tourism builds upon Fredericksburg's unique strengths. High quality, sustainable employment meets the needs of all our citizens and ensures long-term prosperity.

Natural Environment

A healthy environment is necessary to the welfare of our community. Our citizens enjoy the natural beauty of our surroundings, including the river, our parks and trails. We enjoy

clean air and water. We protect and expand land under our stewardship in its natural state so that future generations can enjoy its benefits.

Community Involvement

Progress comes from open and continuous dialogue. The ultimate success in achieving Fredericksburg's vision depends on the participation of the whole community. Constructive involvement of residents, as well as civic and professional organizations, is actively encouraged and supported.

Public Safety

Public safety is key to a strong and vibrant community. Proactive, well-coordinated planning promotes a safe and secure environment in which our citizens can be productive and enjoy a good quality of life.

FREDERICKSBURG CITY COUNCIL VISION PRINCIPLES

Sense of Place and Community

1. We will seek every opportunity to accurately present the full story of our diverse community and history.
2. We will take a more proactive role in the identification, protection, and interpretation of our historic resources.
3. Open space is important to the health of our community. We will take a greater role in acquiring and maintaining this vital resource.
4. We will enhance existing trails and develop new walkways to better connect our neighborhoods and improve accessibility throughout the City.
5. We will support only compatible development that enhances neighborhoods and preserves their integrity and character.
6. We will use creative strategies to help homebuyers acquire affordable, owner-occupied housing that is consistent with existing neighborhood character.

Education and Culture

1. Quality education requires a substantial commitment of resources to insure that we provide all our children with the best education possible.
2. We will work to assure maximum funding to our local schools from state sources.
3. We will aid our children in developing a sense of pride in their history, culture, schools, community, and, ultimately, in themselves.
4. We will foster opportunities for artistic, cultural, and educational enrichment through partnerships with colleges, museums, libraries, community organizations, and government agencies.

Diversity

1. In order to make sound policy decisions that enjoy the support of the whole community, it is essential that the needs and views of our minority populations be solicited and understood.
2. We will encourage cultural and ethnic events and programs that celebrate the history and contributions of these various groups to our community, including African American and Hispanic cultures.
3. The City Council is cognizant of our socio-economic diversity, a diversity that includes income, culture, education, and way of life. Thus, the City will be a catalyst for improved social, economic, and educational opportunities for all citizens, regardless of race. The City government will serve as a model in this regard.

Economic Development

1. The Comprehensive Plan is an important tool for assuring the long-term economic health and livability of the City and we will adhere to its standards.
2. We will support compatible economic development that is high quality, appropriately scaled, aesthetically pleasing, environmentally sound, and consistent with the unique character of the City.
3. Our economy should be diverse and not overly dependent upon any one business or service sector.
4. We will work closely with regional organizations to find suitable sites and opportunities for compatible development.
5. New development will largely pay its own way to minimize negative impact on City taxpayers.
6. New development must include reasonable and viable transportation plans.
7. We will avoid compromising our high standards for development.
8. We will support and strengthen our existing businesses.
9. We will increase our efforts to promote heritage tourism.
10. We recognize that historic preservation is economic development.

Natural Environment

1. We will make every effort to maintain the quality and health of the Rappahannock River and its tributaries through enhanced protection of our riparian properties.
2. We will improve maintenance of the natural state of our parks and urban riverfront.
3. We will find opportunities to expand greenspace available for the use and enjoyment of the public.
4. We will work with neighboring localities to minimize the impact of growth on our air and water resources.
5. We will protect appropriate natural elements and environmental resources in all future development.

Community Involvement

1. The City will give residents sufficient time and opportunity to provide input in the decision making process.
2. We will insure that the public has convenient access to all available information necessary to participate in the democratic process.
3. We pledge to actively solicit input from residents as well as civic, business, and professional organizations.
4. We will seek to appoint representatives to boards and commissions that represent the diversity of our community.

Public Safety

1. We will identify and use all available resources to insure the highest quality of police and fire protection, as well as emergency response teams.
2. We will work with state and federal authorities to offer a seamless spectrum of hometown security.
3. We will employ an integrated, proactive approach to crime prevention that involves various City departments, as well as civic and neighborhood organizations.